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CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—Extensions of Remarks November 20, 1974

ent welfare system. If that is not bad enough, some experts contend that the HEW estimate is far too low. Perhaps as many as 60 million would qualify for benefits, well over one-fourth of the entire population.

All of this means an even more costly welfare program. HEW estimates that an additional \$3 billion in Federal outlays would be needed. Many believe the actual cost would be far higher.

In summary, enactment of the income supplemental program would only worsen our welfare problems. More people would be on the Federal dole and more money would be spent on welfare benefits. I do not believe that this is the desire of the majority of Americans.

These amendments would certainly make it easier. Among other things, they set time limits that bureaucrats must meet in producing documents. Now, a clerk can put you off indefinitely. Another stalling procedure was the refusal of an agency to produce a document unless the citizen could give its precise title; the amendment says that a "reasonable description" will suffice. Also each agency will be required to maintain and publish indexes of its documents.

Another crafty idea of Rep. William Moorhead, D-Pa., and Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., sponsors of the amendments, was to require an annual report from each agency of all decisions made to withhold information AND the name of the person who made the decision. If the decisions were held by a court to be capricious or arbitrary, then the Civil Service Commission would be empowered to punish the employee. (Also, the government would have to pay for the lawyer fees if the judge decided in favor of the citizen.)

The most controversial provision and the one President Ford has the most doubts about deals with national security. Now, anything classified as a defense secret is automatically withheld, and as we found out in the wake of the Pentagon Papers case, the classifications on less than 10 per cent of the material cannot be justified. There are even newspaper clippings stamped secret.

Anyway, one of these amendment would shift the burden from citizen to bureaucrat; he must justify the secret classification he has affixed to a document requested by a citizen. The way he does this is to submit the classified document to a federal judge, who will look at it in his chambers and decide whether the material should be kept from public view. President Ford said that federal judges didn't have the ability to make these determinations. This was quite a slam at the judiciary and, if true, which we doubt, it leaves us wondering, if judges don't, who does?

The bill was passed by big votes in both houses. We hope the senators and representatives will stay in session long enough to override this veto.

the people from abuses of economic power in the private sector.

I am urging President Ford to maintain pressure on the Justice Department for vigorous enforcement of antitrust laws. This legislation gives the administration the authority it needs for an effective war against monopolies and price fixing. We do not need vast new bureaucracies to strangle business in senseless regulations, but we do need tough enforcement of laws to preserve our free economy in the marketplace.

This is an important step against inflation by conspiracy, but I would also remind this Congress of the necessity to fight inflation caused by deficit Federal spending—inflation caused by irresponsibility.

We have demonstrated our will to curb abuses by big business, but it is also time for us to concentrate on restricting the abuses by big government.

FOI VETO IS BLOW TO AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

HON. BILL ALEXANDER

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 1974

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent a State which has one of the most progressive State freedom of information statutes in this country. In my work on the Government Operations Committee and on the floor of the House, I have regularly voiced my support for opening up government to the people it serves. I was proud to be a sponsor of the Freedom of Information Act amendments which passed the House with such an overwhelming vote.

The President's veto of this measure represented a blow to our American democracy. I have already set forth my strong feelings on this issue in another segment of today's debate. However, I wish to share with my colleagues an editorial which appeared in the Arkansas Democrat and clearly outlines the need for overriding this veto:

Not Too Open

In a move that didn't do much to bolster his bragging about operating an "open government," President Ford vetoed yesterday some very good changes that the Congress had made in the Freedom of Information law. The veto was largely the result of pressure by the Defense Department and other bureaucrats, who deeply resent even the small number (about 200) suits that have been brought under the act.

It's hard to believe it, but the country never had a FOI law until 1966, and this is the first time improvements have been attempted. The law requires the government to make all records available to citizens except defense secrets, tax returns, law enforcement investigation files, trade secrets, personnel or medical files and inter-agency memos. It was thought that reporters would be the greatest users of this law, but it has been activist groups like Common Cause and conservationists that have been its biggest user. This is sort of a sad comment on the press, because there must be thousands of things the public needs to know buried in the mountain of government documents. Of course, this kind of reporting is hard work and not very dramatic, but with the expose bug very much in the Washington air, maybe more journalists will take up the cause.

DETERRENT AGAINST PRICE-FIXING

SPEECH OF

HON. MARJORIE S. HOLT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 1974

Mrs. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, the Anti-Trust Procedures and Penalties Act should be a powerful deterrent against price fixing and the creation of monopolies.

This is the best kind of consumer protection legislation, because it gives us the tools we need to prevent such things as the current exorbitant sugar profits through price manipulation. This legislation will go a long way toward preserving competition in the free market.

I voted in favor of this because I believe that giant corporate monopolies are as dangerous to a free society as big government. By raising the maximum fine for corporate violations of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act to \$1 million and by punishing individual viola-

BELL CAPTAIN COLLINS

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 1974

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, one of our most active civic leaders and a well-respected man in Cleveland's religious circles, Deacon Jessie A. Collins has long been deserving of the recognition of the community. Deacon Collins recently celebrated his 30th year of employment as bell captain of the hotels associated with the Cleveland Clinic. I have known and admired Deacon Collins for many years and have often marveled at his ability to always be so pleasant with everyone with whom he comes in contact.

This deeply religious man, devoted to his church and to service to mankind, has touched many people with the warmth and cheerfulness of his greeting. Deacon Collins has always been one of my staunchest supporters and I have always been gratified to have his support. Recently Deacon Collins was the subject of an article in the Park Plaza Gazette. To introduce my colleagues to this outstanding citizen I submit this article for their reading:

BELL CAPTAIN CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

Arthur Collins our Bell Captain, and certainly one of our most important employees, recently celebrated his 30th year with the hotels connected to the Cleveland Clinic. The Bolton Square Hotel, The Clinic Inn and now the Park Plaza Inn. From his home town, Athens, Georgia he joined the United States Air Force and served 2 years overseas before being discharged with the rank of Master Sergeant.

Mr. Collins is very active in civic affairs. To list a few of his many activities: He is on the board of directors of the East Urban YMCA; president of the Ohio Baptist Laymen's Movement; chairman of the board of the Friendship Baptist Church; Treasurer of the Ohio Republican Council; Committeeman in Ward 27; and in addition to all these he sings second tenor in his church choir. Mr. Collins greets each and every guest with a big smile and a friendly word. He